

THE LOGGER'S BARK

1916 - RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA - 2016

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RCT 2016 Field Report

By Randy WB4SPB

Preparation for 2016 Field Day has been underway for a few months, and now that it's over we can look back and congratulate ourselves on another well-executed effort. Many hands made light work of loading and transporting equipment from the Clubhouse.

The Friday setup went well, and some truly impressive shots were fired to launch lines over trees at the site. Once again the ma-



Randy WB4SPB- FD Team Leader- in the 20M SSB/Digital shack- assists with the Logging Mesh Network that ties all logging PCs together.

gestic 20-meter mono-banders towered and wire antennas soared over the grounds of Western State Hospital. Generators hummed (or roared) and the sounds of radio communication crackled through the air.

UPCOMING NOTABLE CLUB ACTIVITIES



7/23, Sat, CVARS Swap meet. See page 18
7/27, Weds 7:00 PM Clubhouse Activity Night
8/3, Weds, 7:00 PM Club Officers Board Meeting
7/30, Sat 9:00 AM, Mini Swap Meet @ Clubhouse
See w7dk.org for more details....
8/09, Tues, 7:00 PM, VE Testing at Clubhouse
8/10 Weds, 7:30 PM- Club Meeting. See w7dk.org
8/27, Sat, Fox Hunt Seattle: <http://n1qq.com/foxhunt/>

Weather conditions for this year's Field Day event were very pleasant, with moderate temperatures and clear skies - a welcome change from last year's sweltering heat.

Also different this year: rather poor propagation. In fact, there were no sunspots at all during Field Day, although we were fortunate to have low geomagnetic activity.

Anticipating poor conditions on 10M and 15M, we did not deploy separate stations for these bands, so our operating class was 4A (four transmitters on emergency power). We set up a single station and antenna for 80M and 15M (which also managed to make some 10M and 6M Qs), a station for 40M, a station for 20M CW and a station for 20M phone and digital contacts. Total QSO count was 1226, down a bit from last year's (6A) 1663 Qs. The number of CW and phone/digital QSOs was roughly equal. Our claimed score is 3762, and we'll also get 950 bonus points for having four stations, public access and an information table, alternate (bicycle) power QSOs, message traffic origination and W1AW bulletin copy.

Stations managers were as follows:

80M/15M: Gary WG7X and Bud K7BUD
40M: Charlie AE7BM and Bob KF7GPO
20M Phone: Mike W7XTZ and Mike W7MWF
20M CW: Rich KR7W

The following operators made QSOs: AD7EU, W6RHY, AC7QN, WT7N, KF7GPO, WG7X, WB7TVS, K7BUD, AE7BM, W7MKE, AF7YD, W7MWF, K7ZG, KA7NWF, KF7SCB, K7MLO, W7XTZ, NG7G, W7LKG, K7TMW, WB7OYL, KG7HWU, KR7W and WB4SPB.

We had several new-to-Field-Day operators this year, including Liz W6RHY, Ron K7MLO, Mike W7MKE, Warren NG7G and Verna KF7SCB.

As always, our Master Chiefs of the Mess, Paul W7PFU and Jan K7HTU, fed us in fine style. Saturday evening's pot luck dinner was replete with sides and desserts in addition to hot dogs and burgers. Some of us returned to the dessert table over and over during the night, fueling ourselves with sugar and chocolate in an effort to stay awake. The Sunday morning Logger's Breakfast featured Jan's delicious omelets cooked to order along with biscuits and gravy (this year's new item on the menu).

Our public information table was set up and staffed by John AC7WW and Connie Clarke, with assistance from Greta KF7KSW and Bob N7NCP Hewlett (and probably others). They recorded the names of some 50 Club members and about 30 visitors who came to participate or see what we were up to.

Thanks to the many other Club members not specifically named here who helped with directing, carrying, pounding, holding, holding forth, photographing, video-taping, conversing with visitors, etc. Everyone helped to make this another successful Radio Club of Tacoma event.

73,

The Field

Day Team



Photo above: Saturday Afternoon lunch at the FOOD station. The chefs of the mess prepared Toasted Cheese sandwiches and Tomato Soup.

Photo at Left: "What's that thingy do?" It's the gizmo that ties the whole field together- the Station Logging Computers Mesh Network wireless router in the middle of the field that repeats and communicates with the wireless routers at each station.

GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST

BY RICH KR7W - BARK EDITOR

More about Field Day-

Hopefully, Dear Nine Bark Readers- You've read Randy WB4SPB's Field Day Report...

Last month I reported that I thought that this years Field Day participation would be down. I made this determination by the lack of 'sign ups' of the sign up sheets at the club house and the lack of participants at Field Day planning meetings. I'm glad to say that I was wrong- many more folks participated than I thought would.

I also wrote that I was 'excited' about FD this year and I would be building a couple of projects for my station.

Here's Radio Club of Tacoma's 2016 Field Day *from my Operator Chair*:

I offered to host and provide the 20M CW Station. I did this by bringing out my Elecraft KX3 + KXPA-100 Linear Amplifier. The rig was connected to the clubs 3 element Yagi on top of a 'Rocket Launcher' military surplus tower.

The KX3 has a very small speaker and a phones jack. For FD, I wanted the operator to be able use phones or use the speaker and at the same time- the visitors in the Peanut Gallery can hear the Morse action via a loud enough speaker. To accomplish this- a Free Table junk mobile radio control head enclosure plus two IC amplifier chips were assembled to be the KX3's companion amplified speaker.

Also, a Logging PC to radio interface that provided straight key and iambic paddle input was needed. The popular 'Maker' Arduino Keyer project by K3NG was built in an-

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other repurposed piece of equipment (an Ethernet to Parallel Printer adapter) obtained from the clubhouse's Free Table (another club member benefit).

Both of these projects needed to be 'RFI Proof'- meaning that no thumping audio in the speaker or phones when 100 Watts of OFF/ON Morse code was being sent, or RF affecting the Arduino Keyer Electronics. Plenty of testing at my home shack re-



20M CW FD Station: A: KX3, B: Dual Audio Amplifier Speaker Module, C: K3NG Arduino Keyer Interface.

vealed that the Arduino device was rock solid but Thumpa-Thumpa-Thumpa was prevalent in the speaker and phones with 100 watt dits and dahs being transmitted. Research and experimenting removed the RFI interference.



The Field as seen from the 20M SSB Station. L-R: 80M Trailer, 40M + 20MCW shelter, 20M Yagi on Tower. The wispy white lines in the blue sky are the 40M wire Yagi wires and support ropes.

On Set Up day- I've been known to forget to bring some important piece of the station puzzle. This year was no different. An hour trip home retrieved some wooden posts for the 40M wire yagi antenna. 20M ? 40M? Yes, I traded bringing and setting up the antenna for the 40M station that Charlie AE7BM and Bob G. KF7GPO were in charge of so I wouldn't have to erect the Rocket Launcher tower and the 20M Yagi. I think I got the better end of the trade- even with the extra trip home.

Chuck AC7QN provided his 10x20 ft portable garage shelter for the 20M CW and 40M SSB+CW stations to reside in. This year we over staked it so the wind wouldn't blow it over. Myself and 40M Charlie both brought pieces of OSB sheathing for a floor and noise reducing panels. OSB makes for a crappy photographic background but for reducing inter-station audio interference it was Good, Fast, and Cheap. 40M Charlie provided us with un-interruptable AC Power from his new Honda Gen-Set.

This year I invited my former work-mate Eric WB7OYL (his dad was a Life club mem-

ber who recently passed away). Eric was instrumental in figuring out and fixing a few glitches.



Eric WB7OYL and Bob G KF7GPO in the 40M side of the shack.

Saturday, 11:00 AM, 20M CW—Showtime! I began calling CQ. A few QSOs here and there... but not many. It was like my receiver was deaf or the band was dead. I also thought the 20M SSB station was interfering. Not so! It was discovered that something on the KX3 receiver was set 'not ideal'. Now QSOs are being made. At the

same time the station next door was making SSB QSOs on 40M.



Prof. Chuck AC7QN readying the Bicycle Generator QRP Station. Let the flames out now.

We decided that the Human Power QSOs would commence at Noon. Chuck AC7QN provides a bicycle mounted on a stand which turns a DC treadmill motor which generates 30 volts– fed to a 13.8V regulator to power a 5 Watt Yaesu FT-817 QRP rig connected to the 40M dipole. I pedaled the bicycle while Chuck tuned the rig and kept a log. This year Warren NG7G was at the 40M station logging PC to directly enter the QSOs. Chuck found a station calling CQ, I'd call out the stations call sign, and then send W7DK in sloppy straight key Morse. Band conditions seemed 'one way' - as I could hear stations loudly, but our 5W wasn't heard as well as usual. In 45 minutes of pedaling our effort netted 6 QSOs.

In last months article I mentioned that the FOOD station would be offering a choice of

entrées: Chicken Cordon Bleu or Steak Tar Tar. Myself and other members would tease Chef Paul W7PFU on Saturdays at the Clubhouse about the new fare. To my surprise– at the 6 PM Saturday Potluck dinner– Chef Paul produced– just for me– two helpings of Chicken Cordon Bleu– fresh from a butcher shop. It was good. Thanks Chef Paul.



Chefs of the Mess: Jan K7HTU and Paul W7PFU. Omeletts, sausage, spuds, eggs as you like them.

4 CW ops were racking up the 20M QSOs– all in the spirit of friendly competition with the 20M SSB station. Then someone starting talking up CW vs Phone competition (regardless of band). Each stations logging computers were tied together via the Ham WAN Mesh network. Each time I made a CW QSO, I looked up at the total stats to check who was winning.

It seemed that the 40M station was having a hard time making QSOs. It was suspected that the clubs Icom 737 radio was hard of hearing. Eric WB7OYL had his Icom 756 Pro 2 in his car and we swapped radios. Then BAM! A huge amount of CW signals are heard. The station went back to SSB and the QSO count multiplied ten fold. Now the SSBers would be catching up with the CW ops.

20M CW started to peter out around 11:00 PM. I popped into the 80M shack and took over the key from Randy. Searching up and down the band netted about 20 QSOs on the noisy band- then Leonard KA7NWF the SSB op took over. It became nap time until 5:00 AM.

At the 40M station, 40M Charlie had a gas stove, coffee maker, and thermos carafe. The coffee was welcome after nap time. 20M CW was sparse at that time day but as the sun rose more and more QSOs were made.

Omelets! Made to Order by Chef Jan K7HTU; sausage patties, hash browns, and eggs by Chef Paul W7PFU at the FOOD station. Around 8 AM operators who arrived early and those who stayed the night mi-



Mike W7XTZ makes his first ever FD CW QSOs. What does the look on his face say?

grated across the field to the FOOD station. Good coffee and good eats. Thanks Guys.

Is there Morse Code in Hell? At the beginning of FD, Mike W7XTZ- a student of CW- told me that one of his FD goals was to make ONE CW QSO. So at 10:30 AM I went to the 20M SSB tent and pulled Mike away from the Mic to the CW station. With some coaching- I wrote down what to send with the straight key. "Send as fast as you

can receive", I tell Mike. Then a station answers his CQ. "I didn't get it", Mike says. No worries- I typed the call sign into the logging program. "Send this", I say. Mike did, and the QSO was made. We went on for three more QSOs.

Worth W7WG and CT N7UH were sitting nearby observing. CT tells Mike, "Did you notice that you are speeding up your sending? That means you are becoming comfortable". I say, "CT, I think he is sending faster to get it over with".



Chuck AC7QN at 40M SSB station early Sunday AM.

Mike did a great job for his first time making CW contest like QSOs- and he made the last QSO at the 20M CW station.

11:01 AM. Teardown went well at our shelter. A lot of folks came out just to help put things away. The OSB noise walls, Chuck's shelter, and Wire Yagi was stowed surprisingly quick. I am glad that others are competent at lowering and stowing the military tower and Yagi antennas.

See you at Field Day next year. Yes?

73s,

Rich KR7W.

More FD Fotos follow...



The 80/15 Meter Trailer Shack.



Steve AF7YD operates the cozy 80/15M station.



K7BUD Bud (one of the proprietors' of the 80M shack) and Stephan AD7AB take a break in the back of the shack.



Above: Visitors socialize in the 20M CW + 40M shack.

Below: Joe K7ZG strains to hear the exchange.





Hello Sir! Tar Tar or Cordon Bleu?



The 20M SSB+Digital Shack with Yagi on Military Tower. Some of the 40M wire yagi support ropes can be seen.



Pat WT7N at the Mic and Mike W7MKE assists.

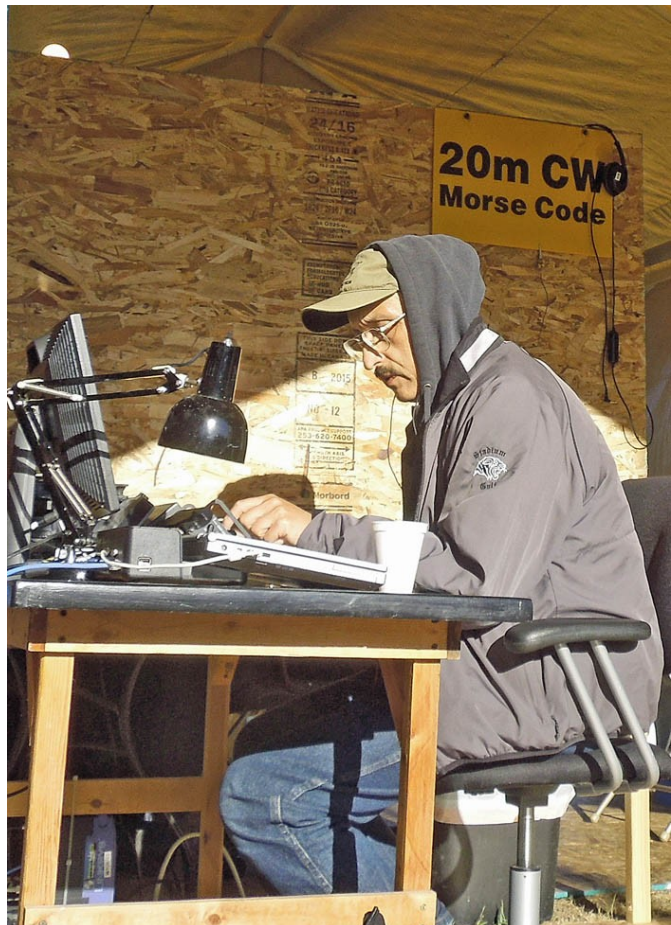


Sorry, no sushi. I highly recommend the Steak Tar Tar.



Back of these heads belong to... Mike W7XTZ and Eric WB7OYL at the 20M SSB station.

W7DK FD Scoreboard					
Band:	CW	SSB	Dig	Total	%
80	57	136	0	193	18
40	134	228	0	362	30
20	372	185	61	618	50
15	29	6	0	35	3
10	0	4	0	4	0
6	2	12	0	14	1



Radik KG7HWU warms up in the Sunday morning sunshine at the 20M CW station.



DID YOU KNOW?

Photos in this article
were provided by:
David W7HTJ
Erick K7APO
Thanks,
The Old Man



Happy 100th Birthday RCT! About two months ago- Long time club member K7MXE Bob Heselburg has built (from his home saw mill) and donated two nicely made picnic tables and placed them in the back yard behind the clubhouse. The big table has hosted small meetings of club members. A belated Thanks! Goes out to Bob from the Bark staff.

HF Station Woes...

After Field Day was over- the 20 meter SSB station was returned to its perch in the Clubhouse HF room. Mike W7MWF- one of the 20M station proprietors- noted that during the operating event- the speaker audio was intermittent and he thought the microphone had an open circuit in it.

Mike, Bruce WE7P, and I (KR7W) met at the Club House to investigate. The speaker jack on the rear apron of the radio definitely was loose. This seemed like an easy fix by re-soldering the loose connection. Exploratory surgery revealed that the Main Circuit Board needed to be turned upside down for access to the bad speaker jack. This necessitated removing 5 ribbon cables, a daughter board, RF coax cables, and a couple of Molex connectors. After all of that - the sleeve lead on the jack was re-soldered. After reassembly- all should be good, right?

Upon applying power- the radio boots up and lights up- Uh-Oh, there's no response from the front panel. No tuning, no volume, no pushing of buttons. How'd that happen? It turns out that on one of the ribbon cables- a piece of the foil connector came off of the form. Investigation revealed that this one connection (out of hundreds) is the data buss communications channel from the front panel to the main board.

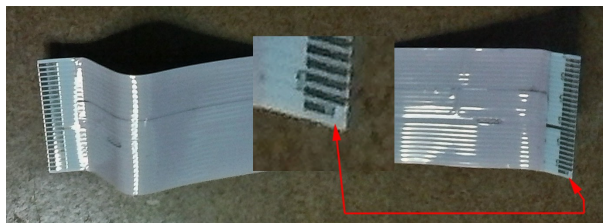
Bruce WE7P stepped up ordered a new cable from Icom. \$85 and another two hours later- the radio is back on its perch and in service. We expect the radio club to reimburse the cost of the cable. By the way- it looked to us that someone has been inside



AROUND THE CLUBHOUSE

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE INFO

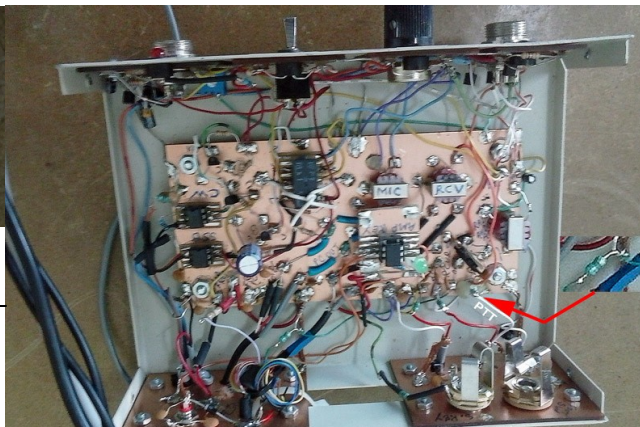




Injured Ribbon Cable: Magnified insert + Red Arrows point to missing foil contact.

of this (previously used) radio before us.

The Field Day microphone issue revealed itself as we were testing the radio repair. There was no Push To Talk from the station Boom Microphone button or Foot Switch. These leads pass through the Rig to PC interface box. Removing the lid to the box revealed the circuitry of wires, ICs, BJTs, LEDs, and dead-bug connections for trouble-shooting. Testing revealed a bad RF Choke in the circuit between the mic cable and the ICs, BJTs, etc. Soldering around the RF Choke completes the PTT Path. Lucky for us there were no ribbon cables to contend with.



Guts of Interface Box: Magnified Insert + Red arrow shows the RF Choke. The choke worked if the wire lead was twisted just right– not suitable for RCT's admirable HF station. WE7P Photos.

How's the Clubhouse Garage Painting Project Coming? Some progress is being made– as club member **Steve AF7YD** is busy replacing some of the siding and fascia boards on the south side of the building. This reporter is unsure who is in charge of the project– but help is always welcome. If you'd like to help out– then please let Steve **AF7Yankee Delta** know.

Nobody Likes Yard Work... but this reporter has spied K7GRS George and his YL Lola working the weeds around the clubhouse. Let George how much you appreciate it and maybe offer a hand.

Lou Room HF Station Update... As mentioned in the FD Article (pg 3) the Icom IC-737– which was from the Lou station– performed less than satisfactorily. The Ad Hoc HF Committee will trading out the IC-737 for a newly acquired Yaesu FT-950– which was used at Field Day at the 80M station. The new radio is a very nice transceiver that Yaesu Fans in the club will appreciate. KR7W has donated a homebrew PC to Radio interface box with a K1EL Winkeyer module which will replace the Rig Runner used with the IC-737. The CW filter was removed from the IC-737 to be installed in a 'keeper' IC -718. The IC-737 radio and Rig Runner will be handed over to RCT's Property Management Team for disposal.





The 100 Year Anniversary Commemorative Patch Project... At the July 2016 RCT Board Meeting, Club member WB7EC- RED (aka Bruce) proposed that the club have an embroidered patch created for members to sew on their club jacket, shirt, etc to show off the Club's 100 years of Amateur Radio service. The club managers agreed but the idea guy has to do the work- which makes RED the project leader.

RED was put in contact with another club member, W7MKE Mike- he and his wife run an embroidery shop. Mike's shop came up with six patch examples. Now WB7EC- RED wants input from members so he can make a choice that pleases everyone.

**DESIGN 100****DESIGN 101****DESIGN 102****DESIGN 103****DESIGN 104****DESIGN 105**

If you are at the Clubhouse on a Saturday or at a Wednesday evening meeting- let him know your choice. RED also can be reached via email: bruce-ec@hotmail.com [LINK]. What's your choice? If you like one of the designs- but with a small change- RED would like that info also.

The Grand Prize!

Every December, the Radio Club of Tacoma holds its Annual Awards Banquet. Following the recognition of members' achievements throughout the past year, tickets are drawn for an assortment of Dandy Door Prizes. The final drawing of the afternoon is for The Grand Prize.

All through the year, at our General Meetings, raffles are held and a prize awarded. But those tickets are saved and added to the pot for the end-of-year Grand Prize raffle drawing. So, the more tickets you buy at each of the monthly meetings, the greater chance you will have of winning at the banquet. Of course, additional tickets for the drawings will be for sale at the banquet.



This year's Grand Prize will be something a little different than the usual \$100 HRO Gift Certificate. A recent donation to the Club was a near-new in the box Kenwood TH-F6A handheld tri-bander (144/220/440 MHz) transceiver. The Property Management Team approached the Club's Board of Directors recommending that this item be made available as this year's Grand Prize. The Board agreed wholeheartedly.

SO BUY RAFFLE TICKETS ALL YEAR LONG!

The full package
TH-F6A Transceiver
Users Manual
Battery PB-42L
AC Adapter
Battery Pack for AA Cells
DC Power Cable
Cig Lighter Pwr Adapter
Speaker Mic
Nylon Carrying Case
Price new
Approx \$415.00!



Radio Club of Tacoma
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
June 1, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by President Gary WG7X.

Officers and Directors Present

President	Gary McAdams WG7X
Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Mike Finnie W7MWF
Treasurer	Vacant
Board	Alan Ferguson N7OMS
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board	Bob Jamison KE7WPK
Board	Paul Matney W7PFU

Quorum A quorum was present. Twelve club members signed the attendance roster.

Silent Key or Illness None reported

Approval of Minutes Minutes of the May 4, 2016 Board Meeting were approved.

Secretary's Report Mike W7MWF reported received correspondence -Phone and Utility Bills, subscriptions.
Advised filed extension for filing IRS Form 990 until August 15. PO Box renewal \$280 due end of June.

Treasurer's Report Mike W7XTZ passed out financial reports and recapped activity. Copies of the reports are filed with these minutes.

Committee / Reports

Membership: George K7GRS noted that current membership stands at 285

Training: Next Technician Class June 11/12, 2016

Info Tech: Randy WB4SPB reported that all systems are performing nominally. A new video card is needed for the classroom computer to enable on-the-fly source switching to the projector. The BOD authorized Randy to acquire and install the needed component. Randy also advised the Board that he will performing upgrades soon on the NAS (Network Attached Storage) server. A copy of Randy's report is filed with these minutes.

Library: Doug AD7AV provided a mid-year report of library activities and future goals. Much progress has been made in cataloging and stratifying our library collections. Future projects include fabrication and deployment of the "Little Lending Library", and inventory of archival materials with focus on preservation. A copy of Doug's report is filed with these minutes.

HF Operations: It was reported that the boom microphone for the primary HF station is malfunctioning. Rich KR7W has advised members he will take a look at it and repair as

necessary.

Repeater Ops: It was noted that all repeater systems are working properly

Facilities Mgmt: Recurring security system false alarms were discussed. Bruce WE7P will attempt to identify source of problem and possible corrective action.

Property Mgmt: Mike W7MWF reported that W7DK will not participate this year at the Chehalis Flea Market, and will not have any tables at the 2017 Mike and Key Hamfest. Several club members will take our tables for personal sales in order to hold the locations for future sales. PMT focus over the rest of the year will be revival of the Loaner Program, and continue to develop the EBay sales program.

Weds Activity Nite: June 22 - Field Day on-air practice, final prep and last minute planning

General Mtg: Dave W7UUU sends: "The presentation will be culled from video footage of past W7DK Field Days, as well as video vignettes of other club activities held in the mid-nineties.

Unfinished Business

Centennial Planning: No new information

Tower Inspection: Nick K7MO was absent so no updates were available.

Antenna Modeling: At the May meeting, Randy WB4SPB proposed purchase of NEC-4 antenna modelling software. The request was tabled pending further research and querying of general membership. At the May general meeting a show of hands poll was taken with a significant number of members supporting the acquisition of the software.

It was moved and seconded to authorize purchase of the software. Following discussion, the board approved purchase of the NEC-4 program to be installed on RCT computers, cost to be approximately \$300. Randy WB4SBP was encouraged to continue scheduling and leading training sessions in the use of the software.

New Business

Other New Business No new business was brought to the floor

Activity Reports and Discussion Topics

Field Day Planning Field Day planning is ongoing and no unusual issues have arisen.

Announcements SEAPAC convention will be June 3-4-5.
The Cascadia Rising Emergency Exercise will begin June 7
Field Day 2016 will commence with setup on June 24

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm

Radio Club of Tacoma
General Membership Meeting Notes
June 8, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Vice President Mike W7XTZ at the Pierce County Library Administration Building.

Officers and Directors Present

Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary Mike Finnie W7MWF
Board Paul Matney W7PFU

Pledge of Allegiance led by Paul W7PFU

Welcome One guest was present, Chris, who is interested in obtaining his license and will contact Stephan AD7AB. No new calls were announced. Self-introductions were performed and 25 individuals signed the roster.

Health and Welfare No health, welfare, or silent key announcements were forthcoming.

Secretary's Report Mike W7MWF reported correspondence consisted of the usual stuff, bank statements, subscriptions, utility bills

Treasurer's Report Mike W7XTZ provided a summary of the treasurer's report and reminded members that monthly reports can be viewed on the W7DK website. The Field Day Pig was circulated.

Committee / Activity Reports

VE Report NO VE REPORT THIS MONTH (session is next week)

Training Next Tech Class June 11/12 VE Session June 15th

HF Operations Boom mic at main HF operating station is malfunctioning. KR7W has advised he will inspect and repair.

Repeater Ops WB7EC noted that there appeared to be some problems with the 145.21 repeater. The repeater committee will be advised.

Property Management Mike W7MWF reported that W7DK will likely not at the Chehalis swap meet in July, and probably not at the 2017 Mike and Key hamfest. Club property will continued to be offered at the mini-swap meets held the last Saturday of each month. The PMT is reviewing the RCT Lending Program and will soon publish a list of items available and an overview of how the program works.

Library George K7GRS reported that revisions of the cataloging process is ongoing and will result in a more functional and useful search feature.

4th Weds Activity Night This month's activity on June 22 will be Field Day oriented - Practice, final planning, etc.

Program Randy WB4SPB presented a program featuring old film footage that had been discovered documenting the 1994 W7DK Antenna Wars II held at Owen Beach.

Unfinished Business and Announcements

ARRL Field Day 2016 – Randy WB4SPB provided updates on the event. RCT will participate this year from the site at Western State Hospital. Setup will begin on Friday, June 24 loading gear at the clubhouse beginning 9 am. Final setup on Saturday June 25 with on-air ops beginning at 11 am and concluding at 11 am Sunday, June 26. Tear down and transport gear immediately following. He solicited volunteers for some of the remaining tasks that need to be completed prior to the event.

An announcement was made that at the June 1 Board meeting, it was decided to purchase the fully-licensed version of antenna modelling software NEC-4. This will be installed on the RCT computers later this summer and both basic and advanced classes will be scheduled for upcoming 4th Wednesday Activity Nights.

Several questions were asked by members of the audience regarding our Centennial Celebration. Anyone interested in spearheading the activities or assisting with the celebration was encouraged to contact a club officer or board member.

Tuning and Traffic Mike W7XTZ noted that he had made his 3rd SKCC QSO and he is on his way to Centurion designation.

Door Prize Diane K7SIM and George K7GRS won the door prizes, which were assorted ARRL Field Day paraphernalia.

Raffle Gary WA7SH was the lucky winner of the raffle prize, a 2-meter handi-talkie.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Upcoming Ham Events



CVARS
Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society
WA7UHD



**18TH ANNUAL
HAM RADIO
TAILGATE SWAP MEET
AND CONSIGNMENT AUCTION**

Saturday, July 23, 2016 - 9:00am to noon
Southwest Washington Fairgrounds, Chehalis, WA

Radio Gear • Computers • Door Prizes
Most anything electronic!

Going...
Going...
Gone!



CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

The Consignment Auction will start at 10:30 with consignments of equipment taken until 10:30. CVARS will retain 10% of the sales price.

[HTTP://CVARS.ORG](http://cvars.org)

General Admission:

\$5.00; park in the lot and follow the signs to the meet.

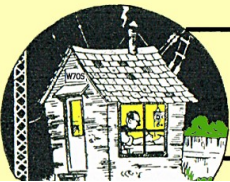
Vendors:

- \$10.00; includes one entry ticket (additional spaces \$5.00)
- Tables are available for rent for \$6.00 per table
- Commercial (business) Vendors only, set up Saturday, 7:00 to 9:00am
- Spaces are outside and under cover
- For more information, contact John at K7OSK@boatanchor.com, 360-273-5929, or check out cvars.org.

Driving Directions: Take I-5 Exit 79, go east to N National Ave (T), turn left and drive about three miles. Turn left onto Exhibitor Rd, go one block to S Gold (T), turn left. Go about 100 feet then turn right into fairgrounds south parking lot. Pay at the booth. Talk in 147.06 (PL110.9) & 146.52 Simplex.



VHF Fox Hunt (Hidden Transmitter Hunt)
Saturday, August 27— see website for schedule
Hamlin Park, Shoreline, Seattle, WA
Click HERE: <http://n1qq.com/foxhunt/> [LINK]



HAMSHACK_s OF THE MONTH

BY CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS



KR7W's Station:

Top Shelf: World Radio Labs Globe-Chief (circa 1955) with two 807s in the output stage capable of 60-70 watts output.

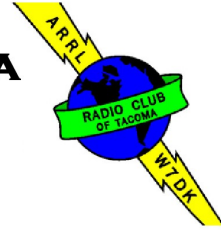
Also a Heathkit VF-1 VFO (circa 1953) modified with regulated AC Power Supply and bright white LED behind the swamp muck green plastic dial wheel.

Middle Shelf: Drake 2B receiver and the 2BQ Q-Multiplier (circa 1961). The receiver is ham bands only and is triple conversion for super-duper receivability of weak signals. The 2BQ option nulls out QRM or puts the desired signal into a band pass notch. Sort of like modern DSP- but it takes a lot of tweaking and fiddling to pull the signal out of the muck.

Bottom Shelf: Elecraft KX3 (circa 2012) QRP transceiver. Behind the KX3 is the KXPA-100 linear amplifier. The horizontal heat-sink fins can be seen. The KX3 and amp are connected together via data buss cables for complete control via the KX3. To the R of KX3 is a homebrew Audio Amp with two separate amps. One amp for Headset only, the other for the speaker. The amplifier is built in an old RCA Mobile radio under the dash control head box- using the mobile radio communications speaker for super clarity. A woodshop project tray holds all of the parts in a convenient easy to use shelf. Antenna is a 40-30-20-17 Meter Fan Dipole, 42 ft high at the center apex.



RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA
1916 - 2016
100 YEARS OF SERVICE



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RADIO CLUB REPEATERS

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5
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